

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-33, all of the claims set forth in the verified translation of PCT/DE2003/001845. Please also cancel claims 1-40 as set forth in the PCT application, as filed. Please also cancel claims 1-33 as set forth in the letter from KBA to the European Patent Office dated August 18, 2004. Further, please cancel claims 1-40 as set forth in the email and letter from KBA to the European Patent Office dated October 22, 2004. Please add new claims 41-80, as follows.

Claims 1-40 (Cancelled)

41. (New) A cylinder pair of a printing group of a rotary offset printing press comprising:

a forme cylinder having a forme cylinder axial length in an axial direction of said forme cylinder and a forme cylinder circumferential shell having a forme cylinder circumferential length, said forme cylinder being divided along said forme cylinder axial length into a plurality of forme cylinder sections;

a transfer cylinder having a transfer cylinder axial length in an axial direction of said transfer cylinder and a transfer cylinder circumferential shell having a transfer cylinder circumferential length, said transfer cylinder being divided along said transfer cylinder axial length into a plurality of transfer cylinder sections;

at least one printing forme on each of said forme cylinder sections;

at least one printing blanket on each of said blanket cylinder sections;

a plurality of axially extending grooves beneath said shell surfaces of said forme cylinder and said blanket cylinder;

a least one printing forme end receiving opening for each said printing forme on said forme cylinder shell and terminating in one of said forme cylinder grooves;

at least one printing blanket end receiving opening for each said printing blanket on said transfer cylinder shell and terminating in one of said blanket cylinder grooves, at least one of said forme cylinder openings rolling off on one of said transfer cylinder openings, all of said forme cylinder openings following each other in said axial direction of said forme cylinder being aligned;

at least three said printing blankets aligned side by side axially on said transfer cylinder in said transfer cylinder axial direction, each said printing blanket having a circumferential length of said transfer cylinder circumferential shell;

a number of said printing formes aligned axially on said forme cylinder and at least equal to said number of printing blankets aligned axially on said blanket cylinder, each said printing forme having a circumferential length of half said forme cylinder circumferential shell length, an axial length of each said printing blanket being a whole number multiple of an axial length of each said printing forme;

an axial length of each said printing blanket opening and being equal to said axial length of each said printing blanket, said printing blanket openings of adjacent ones of said transfer cylinder openings being offset from each other by 90° in said circumferential shell, ones of said printing blanket openings spaced apart by alternating ones of said transfer cylinder sections without said printing blanket openings being aligned; and

an axial length of each said printing forme opening and being equal to

said axial length of each said printing forme, said forme cylinder openings of adjacent ones of said forme cylinder openings being offset by 90° from each other in said circumferential shell, ones of said printing forme openings spaced apart by alternating ones of said forme cylinder sections, without said printing forme openings being aligned.

42. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 41 wherein said forme cylinder includes at least five said forme cylinder sections, said printing forme openings of adjacent outer ones of said sections being aligned at a first end of said forme cylinder with said printing forme openings of adjacent outer ones of said sections at a second end of said forme cylinder, said printing forme openings of a central one of said sections being offset by 90° in said circumferential shell from said adjacent outer section printing forme openings.

43. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 41 wherein said transfer cylinder printing blankets are offset from each other on adjacent ones of said transfer cylinder sections and wherein printing formes on a cooperating one of said forme cylinder other sections are offset on said forme cylinder circumferential shell from said printing blanket.

44. (New) A cylinder pair of a printing group of a rotary offset printing press comprising:

a forme cylinder having a forme cylinder axial length in an axial direction of said forme cylinder and a forme cylinder circumferential shell having a forme cylinder circumferential length, said forme cylinder being divided along said forme cylinder axial length into a plurality of forme cylinder sections;

a transfer cylinder having a transfer cylinder axial length in an axial

direction of said transfer cylinder and a transfer cylinder circumferential shell having a transfer cylinder circumferential length, said transfer cylinder being divided along said transfer cylinder axial length into a plurality of transfer cylinder sections;

at least one printing forme on each of said forme cylinder sections;

at least one printing blanket on each of said blanket cylinder sections;

a plurality of axially extending grooves beneath said shell surfaces of said forme cylinder and said blanket cylinder;

a least one printing forme end receiving opening for each said printing forme on said forme cylinder shell and terminating in one of said forme cylinder grooves;

at least one printing blanket end receiving opening for each said printing blanket on said transfer cylinder shell and terminating in one of said blanket cylinder grooves, at least one of said forme cylinder openings rolling off on one of said transfer cylinder openings, all of said forme cylinder openings following each other in said axial direction of said forme cylinder being aligned;

at least three said printing blankets aligned side by side axially on said transfer cylinder in said transfer cylinder axial direction, each said printing blanket having a circumferential length of said transfer cylinder circumferential shell;

an axial length of each said printing blanket opening and being equal to said axial length of each said printing blanket, said printing blanket openings of adjacent ones of said transfer cylinder sections being offset from each other by 180° in said circumferential shell;

a number of said printing formes aligned axially on said forme cylinder

and at least equal to said number of printing blankets aligned axially on said blanket cylinder, each said printing forme having a circumferential length of half said forme cylinder circumferential shell length, an axial length of each said printing blanket being a whole number multiple of an axial length of each said printing forme; and

an axial length of each said printing blanket opening and being equal to a section width of said blanket cylinder, ones of said blanket openings spaced apart by alternating ones of said transfer sections being aligned in said axial direction of said transfer cylinder.

45. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein a width of a printing blanket is twice a width of a printing forme.

46. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said printing forme is of equal width.

47. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each of said printing blankets is of equal width.

48. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 further including a dimensionally stable support plate for each said printing blanket.

49. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein at least one of said axially extending grooves is a blind bore open at an end of a respective one of said forme cylinder and said transfer cylinder.

50. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said axially extending groove is a blind bore open at an end of a respective one of said forme cylinder and said transfer cylinder.

51. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 further including at least one holding device

in each said axially extending groove and located beneath one of said shell openings.

52. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 further including a filler element in said axially extending grooves not located beneath one of said shell openings.

53. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 further including a counter-pressure cylinder in contact with said transfer cylinder.

54. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 53 wherein said counter-pressure cylinder has a closed shell.

55. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 53 further including four said cylinder pairs and arranged around said counter-pressure cylinder and forming a nine-cylinder printing group.

56. (New) A cylinder of a printing group of a rotary offset printing press comprising:

a cylinder shell having a circumferential length and an axial length divided into a plurality of axially adjacent cylinder sections, each said section having a section axial width;

at least one dressing on each said section and covering said section axial width;

cylinder grooves underneath said cylinder shell and extending in said cylinder axial direction;

dressing end receiving openings in said shell and terminating in said grooves, each said opening adapted to receive ends of a dressing;

at least three said dressings covering said cylinder shell in said axial length arranged side-by-side and at least one dressing covering said circumferential length;

openings in said section adjoining each other in said axial length being offset in said circumferential length, openings in said sections spaced from each other by a closed section being aligned;

a holding device in each said groove and having selectively an open position and a closed position, each said holding device in said closed position being adapted to hold at least one of said dressing ends,

means positioning said holding devices in each of said openings aligned with each other in one of said open position and said closed position independently; and

a counter-pressure cylinder supporting said cylinder and having a closed shell.

57. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein each said dressing has a width, each said opening having an opening width in said cylinder axial length and corresponding to at least said dressing width.

58. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 further including a remote control for changing each said holding device between said open position and said closed position.

59. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 further including pneumatic means for actuating each said holding device.

60. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 further including a hose chargeable with a pressure medium for changing each said holding device between said open position and said closed position.

61. (New) A cylinder of a printing group of a rotary offset printing press comprising:  
a cylinder shell having a circumferential length and an axial length divided

into a plurality of axially adjacent cylinder sections, each said section having a section axial width;

at least one dressing on each said section and covering said section axial width;

cylinder grooves underneath said cylinder shell and extending in said cylinder axial direction;

dressing end receiving openings in said shell and terminating in said grooves, each said opening adapted to receive ends of a dressing;

at least three said dressings covering said cylinder shell in said axial length arranged side-by-side and at least one dressing covering said circumferential length;

openings in said section adjoining each other in said axial length being offset in said circumferential length;

at least one of said cylinder grooves being a blind bore opening at an end face of said cylinder, said blind bore extending at least underneath one of said sections which is closed toward said shell .

62. (New) The cylinder of claim 61 wherein said section closed toward said shell is adjacent said section at said cylinder end face on which said blind bore is open.

63. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein said cylinder is one of a forme cylinder and a transfer cylinder.

64. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein said cylinder is a transfer cylinder.

65. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said opening has a circumferential length of less than 5 mm.

66. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said cylinder has an axial length of between 1200 mm and 2400 mm.

67. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said cylinder has a diameter of between 160 mm and 340 mm.

68. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said groove is arranged beneath said shell at a distance between 9 mm and 10 mm.

69. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said groove is a circular bore.

70. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 69 wherein each said groove has a diameter of between 25 mm and 50 mm.

71. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said printing forme has at least one print image location.

72. (New) The cylinder pair of claim 44 wherein each said printing forme is a panorama printing plate.

73. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein each said opening has a circumferential width of less than 5 mm.

74. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein each said cylinder has an axial length of between 1200 mm and 2400 mm.

75. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein said cylinder has a diameter of between 160 mm and 340 mm.

76. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein each said groove is arranged beneath said shell at a distance between 4 mm and 10 mm.

77. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein each said groove is a circular bore.

78. (New) The cylinder of claim 77 wherein each said groove has a diameter of

between 25 mm and 50 mm.

79. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein each said dressing has at least one print image location.

80. (New) The cylinder of claim 56 wherein said dressing is a panorama printing plate.